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CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Gordon and Jackie Links
91-205 Keonekapu Place
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Links:

Thank you for your letter of December 18, 2005, expressing your concerns about the real property tax burden on you and the citizens of Honolulu.

In response to your request for an explanation to the rapidly rising real property tax, I must inform you that the answer can only be given by the City and County of Honolulu, since real property tax matters are strictly under the control of the City and County. A copy of your letter will be forwarded to Mayor Hannemann and members of the Honolulu City Council who can look into your concerns and properly address them. I would also encourage you to contact your respective city council member.

You also stated that if the City and County needs to tap this increase in property values you would like to see a sales tax that is due at the time of sale. For your information, a state conveyance tax is already being imposed on sellers or transferors of realty. This tax rate is based on a sliding scale and is due no later than 90 days after a transaction.

I am very interested in keeping abreast of situations of concern to our residents and I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your concerns.

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

cc: The Honorable Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Mayor
✓ Chair and Members of the Honolulu City Council

Misc. Com. No. 0295

Honorable Governor Linda Lingle
Executive Chambers
State Capital
Honolulu, HI
96813

18 December 2005

Dear

I would like an answer from you on why my property tax is going up at an exorbitant rate.


My tax bill for 2004-2005 was \$541.50

My tax bill for 2005-2006 rose to \$840.00 (a 55% raise) (social security went up 2.7)

My for cast bill for 2006-2007 is \$1329.75(a 63% raise) (social security is going up 4.1)

I realize that property values are going up but my wife and I are on a fixed income and this yearly rate increase is putting us in a financial bind. For those of us who are past 70 years of age and interested in staying in our house, telling us that we are worth more does not help pay the bills. We certainly realize that city and state costs are going up but we would like to see taxes reflect what the true economy is doing and not what an out of control housing market is doing. If the City and County need to tap this wild increase in property values we would like to see a sales tax that is due at time of sale.

Sincerely,



Please respond to us at:
Gordon and Jackie Links
91-205 Keonekapu Place
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Telephone 685-4273